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Bureau of Labor Statistics  
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**Summary Data  
from the Consumer Price  
Index News Release  
October 2003**

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Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) and Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W): U.S. city average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group (1982=84=100, unless otherwise noted)

Expenditure category	CPI-U				CPI-W			
	Unadjusted indexes	Unadjusted percent change to Oct. 2003 from:	Seasonally adjusted percent change from:		Unadjusted indexes	Unadjusted percent change to Oct. 2003 from:	Seasonally adjusted percent change from:	
	Oct. 2003	Oct. 2002	Oct. 2003	Sep. to Oct.	Oct. 2003	Oct. 2002	Sep. to Oct.	
All items	185.0	2.0	-0.1	0.0	180.7	1.9	-0.2	-0.2
All items (1967=100)	554.3				538.2			
Food and beverages	182.2	2.9	.5	.4	181.7	3.1	.4	.4
Food	181.7	2.9	.4	.4	181.2	3.1	.4	.4
Food at home	181.5	3.7	.8	.7	180.7	3.7	.7	.7
Cereals and bakery products	203.1	2.1	-2.2	-2.2	203.2	2.2	-1.1	-2.2
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	174.0	7.9	1.7	1.8	173.8	7.8	1.7	1.8
Dairy and related products	171.8	1.2	.9	.9	171.7	1.2	.9	.9
Fruits and vegetables	224.3	4.1	.8	.9	224.9	4.0	.7	.9
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials	140.5	.0	.9	.5	139.8	-1.1	.9	.4
Other food at home	143.0	1.3	-1.1	.1	142.5	1.4	-2.2	.1
Sugar and sweets	162.5	1.6	.1	.3	162.1	1.6	.0	.3
Fats and oils	159.7	2.4	1.3	1.0	159.6	2.4	1.3	1.1
Other foods	178.7	1.5	.4	.1	179.0	1.0	.4	-1.3
Food away from home	110.7	.8	-3.3	-3.3	111.2	1.0	-1.1	-1.1
Food away from home	183.3	2.1	.3	.3	183.3	2.2	.3	.3
Other food away from home	122.3	2.7	.4	.4	122.5	2.4	.4	.5
Alcoholic beverages	188.1	1.8	.1	.1	188.1	2.1	.2	.2
Housing	185.7	2.4	-1.1	.3	181.3	2.5	-2.2	.3
Shelter	214.7	2.4	.4	.4	208.3	2.4	.3	.3
Rent of primary residence	206.9	2.8	.1	.0	206.1	2.7	.1	.1
Lodging away from home	120.9	3.3	2.0	2.3	121.7	3.4	1.6	1.8
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence	221.4	2.1	.3	.3	201.0	2.1	.3	.3
Tenants' and household insurance	116.0	5.5	.1	.1	116.0	5.4	.2	.2
Fuels and utilities	155.0	1.3	-2.9	-2.9	154.3	7.5	-3.2	-2.9
Fuels	138.2	8.1	-3.6	-1.1	137.0	8.1	-3.7	-1.2
Fuel oil and other fuels	131.4	10.1	.7	-1.3	130.7	10.2	1.8	-1.0
Gas (piped) and electricity	145.6	7.9	-3.9	-1.1	144.4	8.1	-4.0	-1.2
Household furnishings and operations	125.1	-2.3	-1.1	.2	120.9	-2.4	-1.1	.1
Apparel	124.8	-1.4	2.3	.2	123.9	-1.3	2.4	.4
Men's and boys' apparel	120.8	-1.4	3.0	.3	120.0	-1.9	3.0	.3
Women's and girls' apparel	118.8	-1.4	2.9	1.0	118.2	-1.9	3.2	1.1
Infants' and toddlers' apparel	125.2	-2.0	.9	.9	127.7	-1.4	.9	.7
Footwear	121.8	-1.0	1.2	-1.1	121.1	-1.0	1.3	.0
Transportation	157.1	1.4	-1.4	-1.4	155.4	.9	-1.7	-1.8
Private transportation	153.0	1.3	-1.5	-1.1	152.5	.7	-1.8	-2.0
New and used motor vehicles	94.6	-4.3	.5	.7	93.5	-5.6	-1.0	-1.3
New vehicles	136.5	-2.2	.1	.3	137.8	-2.1	.1	.4
Used cars and trucks	135.1	-10.4	-2.8	-3.0	135.9	-10.3	-2.8	-2.9
Motor fuel	134.4	9.7	-7.1	-6.8	134.9	9.6	-7.2	-6.6
Gasoline (all types)	136.0	9.8	-7.2	-6.8	136.4	9.6	-7.2	-6.6
Motor vehicle parts and equipment	107.9	.9	.2	.2	107.5	1.2	.3	.3
Motor vehicle maintenance and repair	194.9	2.7	.4	.2	198.6	2.7	.4	.3
Public transportation	211.3	3.9	.0	1.1	208.7	4.8	.1	1.1
Medical care	299.9	3.7	.2	.3	299.1	3.7	.3	.4
Medical care commodities	264.7	2.5	-1.1	.1	259.2	2.5	-1.1	.1
Medical care services	309.1	4.0	.3	.4	309.1	4.1	.4	.5
Professional services	263.0	2.7	.3	.3	265.2	2.7	.3	.5
Hospital and related services	400.7	6.4	.3	.3	397.5	6.7	.4	.5
Recreation	107.6	1.1	-1.1	.0	105.4	.8	-1.1	-1.1
Video and audio	103.5	.9	.0	.2	102.6	1.0	.1	.2
Education and communication	110.9	1.4	.0	.0	109.7	.4	.0	.0
Education	139.1	7.1	.3	.4	138.1	6.6	.2	.3
Educational books and supplies	339.7	5.1	.4	.5	340.4	5.1	.3	.4
Tuition, other school fees, and childcare	401.1	7.3	.3	.4	390.1	6.7	.2	.3
Communication	88.4	-4.1	-2.2	-2.2	89.9	-4.0	-3.3	-3.3
Information and information processing	84.4	-4.4	-3.3	-3.3	88.5	-4.2	-3.3	-3.3
Telephone services	97.1	-2.8	-3.3	-3.3	97.3	-2.9	-3.3	-3.3
Information and information processing other than telephone services	15.6	-11.9	.0	.0	16.2	-11.5	.4	.6
Personal computers and peripheral equipment	16.5	-20.3	1.2	1.2	16.2	-20.6	1.3	1.3
Other goods and services	200.2	1.6	.1	.1	209.2	2.1	.1	.1
Tobacco and smoking products	489.5	-2.2	.2	.2	470.7	-2.5	.2	.2
Personal care	179.1	2.2	.1	.1	178.0	1.9	.1	.1
Personal care products	153.6	.4	.1	.1	154.1	.9	.1	.1
Personal care services	195.4	3.3	.1	.1	194.3	3.3	.1	.1
Miscellaneous personal services	285.8	3.6	.2	.1	285.6	3.5	.1	.1
Commodity and service group								
Commodities	151.4	.5	-4.4	-4.4	151.9	.3	-4.5	-4.7
Food and beverages	182.2	2.9	.5	.4	181.7	3.1	.4	.4
Commodities less food and beverages	134.1	-1.0	-1.0	-1.3	135.3	-1.2	-1.1	-1.6
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials	151.2	1.9	-1.2	-1.4	153.4	2.0	-1.5	-1.4
Apparel	124.8	-1.4	2.3	.2	123.9	-1.3	2.4	.4
Durables less food, beverages, and apparel	171.6	3.4	-2.7	-2.6	175.7	3.5	-3.0	-2.7
Durables	115.2	-4.5	.4	.7	114.7	-5.2	.7	-1.0
Services	218.4	3.2	.1	.3	214.4	3.2	.0	.2
Rent of shelter	223.5	2.3	.4	.4	220.6	2.3	.4	.2
Transportation services	218.9	3.8	1.0	.8	215.0	4.5	1.0	.9
Other services	257.2	3.0	.1	.1	250.7	2.5	.0	.1
Special indexes								
All items less food	185.4	1.9	-2.2	-2.2	180.4	1.4	-3.3	-3.3
All items less shelter	175.5	1.9	-3.3	-3.3	172.4	1.7	-4.4	-4.4
All items less medical care	179.1	2.0	-1.1	.1	175.4	1.8	-2.2	.2
Commodities less food	134.1	-1.0	-1.0	-1.3	137.0	-1.2	-1.2	-1.6
Durables less food	153.3	1.8	-1.2	-1.3	159.7	2.0	-1.4	-1.3
Durables less food and apparel	172.2	3.2	-2.5	-2.0	176.1	3.4	-2.8	-2.3
Durables	144.8	2.3	.4	.5	148.1	2.4	.4	.5
Services less rent of shelter	228.7	4.0	.2	.1	203.2	4.1	-2.2	.1
Services less medical care services	210.5	3.1	.1	.3	204.9	3.1	.0	.3
Energy	254.9	8.8	-5.3	-3.9	234.2	8.9	-5.5	-3.0
All items less energy	191.7	1.5	.4	.3	187.0	1.2	.3	.2
All items less food and energy	184.3	1.3	.4	.3	188.4	.9	.3	.3
Commodities less food and energy	140.4	-2.4	-3.1	-3.1	140.3	-2.9	.9	-4.4
Energy commodities	137.0	9.8	-6.7	-4.6	137.2	9.7	-4.9	-4.3
Services less energy services	225.8	2.9	.4	.4	222.1	2.8	.4	.4
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1982=84=100)	\$ .540	-	-	-	\$ .553	-	-	-
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar (1967=81=100)	\$ .180	-	-	-	\$ .184	-	-	-

1 Not seasonally adjusted.

2 Index on a December 1997=100 base.

3 This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item status index series converted to a geometric means estimator in January, 1999.

4 U-population indexes on a December 1982=100 base.

W-population indexes on a December 1984=100 base.

5 Index on a December 1988=100 base.

- Data not available.

NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.

Table 2. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) and Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W): Selected areas, all items index

(1992=100, unless otherwise noted)

Area	CPI-U				All items		CPI-W			
	Indexes			Percent change to Oct. 2003 from:			Indexes			Percent change to Oct. 2003 from:
	Aug. 2003	Sep. 2003	Oct. 2003				Aug. 2003	Sep. 2003	Oct. 2003	
U.S. city average .....	184.6	185.2	185.0	2.0	1		180.3	181.0	180.7	1.9
<b>Region and area size<sup>1</sup></b>										
Northeast urban .....	184.3	185.0	185.4	2.9	1		180.7	181.9	182.1	3.0
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	184.6	187.3	187.7	3.2	1		181.9	183.0	183.1	3.4
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 .....	114.9	115.0	115.2	1.9	1		114.5	115.1	115.3	2.1
Midwest urban .....	178.8	179.5	179.1	1.4	1		174.1	174.4	174.1	1.3
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	181.2	182.0	181.7	1.7	1		175.5	176.4	176.0	1.6
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 .....	113.4	113.9	113.4	1.9	1		113.0	113.2	113.7	1.2
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000) .....	172.1	173.3	171.8	.8	1		169.8	170.0	169.3	.7
South urban .....	177.8	178.3	178.1	1.8	1		174.9	175.3	174.9	1.5
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	179.8	180.1	180.1	2.0	1		177.0	177.3	177.3	2.1
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 .....	113.4	113.8	113.4	1.9	1		112.1	112.4	112.1	1.1
Size D - Nonmetropolitan (less than 50,000) .....	175.9	176.3	175.4	1.4	1		175.5	175.9	174.9	.9
West urban .....	189.2	189.6	189.4	1.9	1		184.2	185.0	184.4	2.0
Size A - More than 1,500,000 .....	191.7	192.3	191.9	1.9	1		185.3	186.1	185.4	2.0
Size B/C - 50,000 to 1,500,000 .....	113.5	113.4	113.5	1.9	1		114.9	115.3	115.0	1.9
<b>Size classes</b>										
A-1 .....	189.0	189.5	189.5	2.2	1		187.2	188.0	187.7	2.3
B/C-2 .....	113.9	114.3	114.1	1.8	1		113.1	113.5	113.2	1.4
D .....	177.1	177.4	174.9	1.5	2		175.3	175.4	174.9	1.1
<b>Selected local areas<sup>2</sup></b>										
Chicago-Gary-Evanston, IL-IN-WI .....	184.5	184.1	185.8	1.4	1		178.3	179.8	179.1	1.5
Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA .....	184.9	188.2	187.4	2.2	1		180.5	181.9	181.2	2.7
New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA .....	189.1	189.6	189.0	3.0	1		184.1	185.0	185.2	3.4
Boston-Brockton-Nashua, MA-NH-CT .....	-	206.8	-	-	1		-	204.2	-	-
Cleveland-Akron, OH .....	-	178.5	-	-	1		-	169.5	-	-
Dallas-Fort Worth, TX .....	-	117.2	-	-	1		-	114.9	-	-
Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV .....	-	-	-	-	1		-	-	-	-
Atlanta, GA .....	181.7	-	-	-	1		179.4	-	177.4	.7
Detroit-Ann Arbor-Flint, MI .....	183.4	-	183.3	1.4	1		177.5	-	178.2	1.8
Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown, TX .....	184.1	-	184.1	2.2	1		182.5	-	183.5	2.9
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL .....	180.9	-	181.4	2.4	1		178.3	-	179.0	2.4
Philadelphia-Williamsport-Atlantic City, PA-NJ-DE-MD .....	181.1	-	181.2	2.4	1		180.2	-	180.2	2.5
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA .....	184.3	-	184.3	1.0	1		182.3	-	181.9	1.0
Seattle-Tacoma-Burien, WA .....	184.4	-	183.7	1.5	1		189.2	-	187.9	1.2

<sup>1</sup> Regions defined as the four Census regions.

<sup>2</sup> Indexes on a December 1994=100 base.

<sup>3</sup> Indexes on a December 1994=100 base.

<sup>4</sup> In addition, the following metropolitan areas are published semiannually and appear in Tables 34 and 35 of the January and July issues of the CPI Detailed Report: Anchorage, AK; Cincinnati-Hamilton, OH-KY-IN; Denver-Boulder-Granby, CO; Honolulu, HI; Kansas City, MO-KS; Milwaukee-Racine, WI; Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI; Phoenix-Mesa, AZ; Pittsburgh, PA; Portland-Bainbridge, OR-WA; St. Louis, MO-IL; San Diego, CA; Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL.

<sup>5</sup> Indexes on a November 1994=100 base.

<sup>6</sup> Data not available.

<sup>7</sup> Indexes apply to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.

**NOTE:** Local area indexes are byproducts of the national CPI program. Each local index has a smaller sample size than the national index and is, therefore, subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are similar. Therefore, the Bureau of Labor Statistics strongly urges users to consider adopting the national average CPI for use in their analytical classes.

## BRIEF EXPLANATION OF THE CPI

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a market basket of goods and services. CPIs are published for two population groups: 1) The CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W), which covers 32 percent of the total population, and 2) the CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) and the Chained CPI for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U), which each cover about 87 percent of the total population. While the CPI-U and CPI-W are considered final when released, the C-CPI-U is issued in preliminary form and is subject to two annual revisions. The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, transportation, medical care, and other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in 87 locations are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. *Indexes for different months are usually compared in relative terms. Thus, an index of 133.5 is 1.063 times higher than an index of 125.6 (133.5/125.6=1.063); in*

*other words, prices increased 6.3 percent.* The CPI is used as an indicator of inflation, a deflator of other economic series, and an escalator for income payments.

**More detail.** This news release from the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor provides summary data from the Consumer Price Index. The full release is available electronically on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/cpi/> at release time. If you have any questions about the CPI, please write to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Division of Consumer Prices and Price Indexes, Room 3615 PSB, Washington, DC 20212, or call (202) 691-7000. Full detail is available in the monthly periodical *CPI Detailed Report* for \$47 per year from New Orders, Government Printing Office, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954. This information will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: 1-800-877-8339. For a recorded message of summary CPI data, call (202) 691-5200.

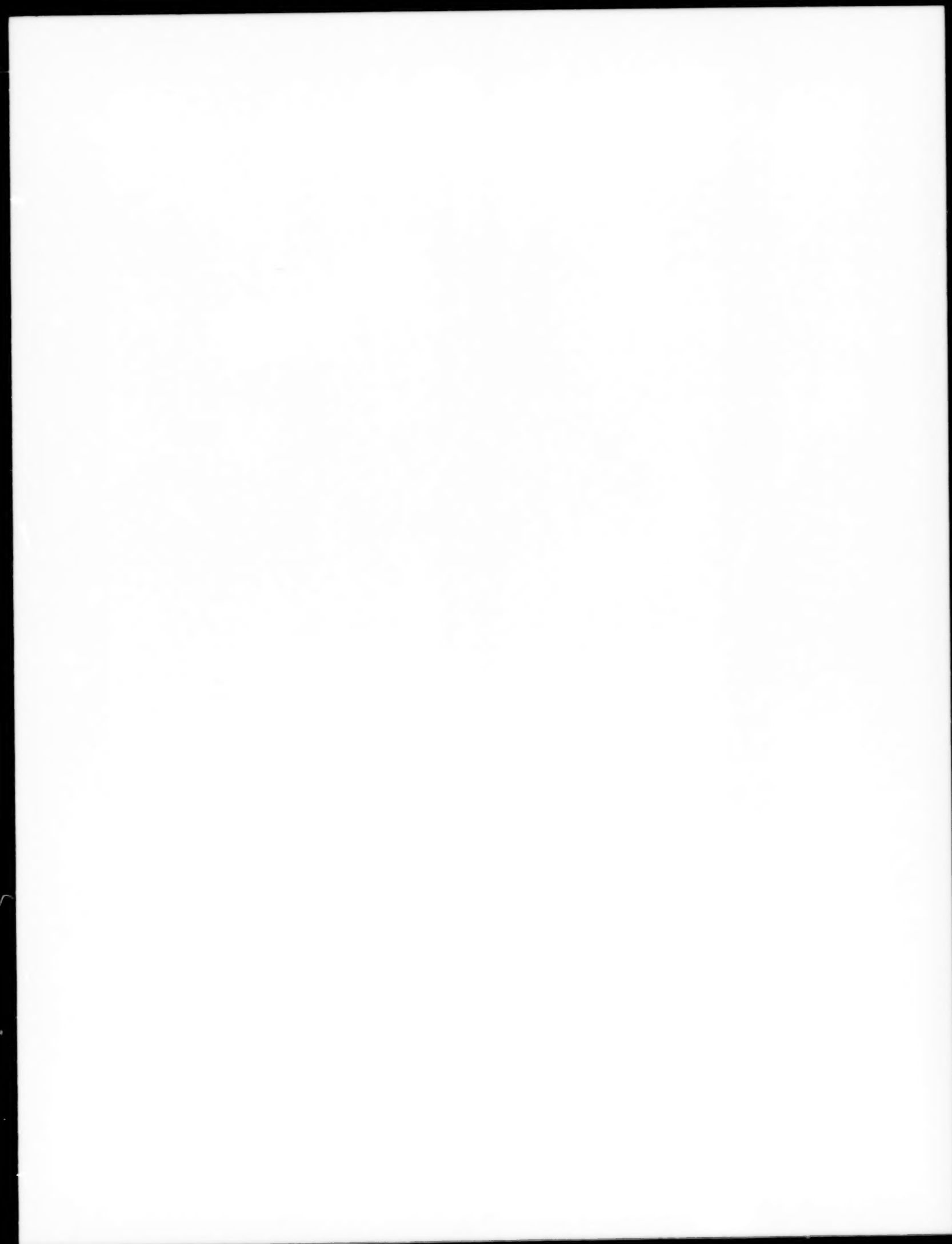
### CPI For All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)-Analysis

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U was unchanged in October, following increases of 0.3 percent in each of the preceding two months. Energy costs, which advanced sharply in August and September, turned down in October, declining 3.9 percent. Within energy, the index for petroleum-based energy declined 6.6 percent and the index for energy services fell 1.1 percent. The index for food rose 0.6 percent with the index for food at home

up 0.7 percent. A 1.8 percent increase in the index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs accounted for over 60 percent of the increase in grocery store food prices. The index for all items less food and energy increased 0.2 percent in October after advancing 0.1 percent in each of the preceding two months, principally reflecting a larger increase in the index for shelter.

**NEXT CPI RELEASE: NOVEMBER DATA ON DECEMBER 16, 2003 8:30AM (EST); TRY OUR CPI QUICKLINE: 202-691-6994**

For change of address, please include old mailing label and write to: I&C Address Change, Room 2860 PSB, BLS, Washington, DC 20212



**END**

**01-13-05**